

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY
OFFICE OF PROGRAM SERVICES
PROGRAM PROFILES

Youth Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Implementation

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Who Can I Contact At DBHR For More Information?

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What Is The Youth Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Implementation Program?

DBHR contracts with counties for designated chemical dependency professionals to provide evaluations of youth who may be referred to local prosecutors. They, in turn, may approach local courts for orders of detention and treatment under the Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA). Those ordered to treatment are sent to “secure” residential chemical dependency treatment facilities funded by DBHR, primarily all Level II facilities. DBHR staff can assist with placement. Note: These security requirements assist youth who may be ITA-type youth, but DBHR does not specifically fund an ITA facility of program for youth. There are limitations to the ability of Level II programs to safely and securely hold youth in treatment.

Who Is Eligible For This Service?

Youth under age 18 who are in need of treatment, who have failed in prior treatment settings, and have threatened, attempted, or inflicted physical harm or are likely to inflict physical harm upon others are eligible.

How Many People Are Served?

DBHR has assisted approximately 8 - 10 youth to receive residential treatment under the ITA-type referrals. These requests are often coordinated within Becca or At-Risk Youth (ARY) procedures, and often as “stipulated” to voluntary treatment.

What Is The Biennial Funding Amount And Source?

No specific funding is allocated, but youth residential treatment beds designated as Level II are prioritized for these types of referrals.

What Would Be The Impact If This Program Was No Longer Available?

Youth who are chemically dependent and who meet the requirements of an ITA would not be able to access inpatient services in a program designed to meet their needs.

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What Other Agencies Collaborate With DBHR To Implement This Program?

DBHR collaborates with chemical dependency and mental health professionals, county alcohol and drug coordinators, and local courts and prosecutors to implement youth ITA.

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